

TCS-2497-75
Copy No. 12


MEMORANDUM FOR: Dr. Albert C. Hall
Assistant Secretary of Defense
(Intelligence)

SUBJECT : Soviet BW Activity

1. This is in response to your recent expression of interest in Soviet BW activity and your suggestion for a review of the data.

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 reporting since 1971 have raised the possibility that the Soviets have developed a militarily significant BW weapons production capability. This interpretation centers on whether several large Soviet installations are designed for BW agent R&D and weapons production. Our current assessment is that the evidence is still inconclusive and further study on this problem is required.

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5. As a result of the interest in these sites, a review panel has been created under the Biological and Chemical Warfare Intelligence Subcommittee, Scientific Intelligence Committee to study the available information on suspect BW sites in the USSR and report its findings with appropriate recommendations to the Subcommittee on 16 April 1975. In addition, we have scheduled a report for later in the year which will update a 1972 study on the SVERDLOVSK and ZAGORSK sites. As in the past, we plan to consult with outside experts in this review. Needless to say, these sites collectively must be considered seriously as possible indicators of a Soviet effort in the field of BW or some other field that is important to them. For the present however we do not believe the BW evidence on OMUTNINSK is strong enough to place it in the same category as the SVERDLOVSK and ZAGORSK sites. As you know,

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W. E. Colby
Director

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SIGNATURE RECOMMENDED:

Deputy Director for Science and Technology

Date

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6 FEB 1975

Director of Scientific Intelligence

Date

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